

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
JUNE 28, 2002

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, June 28, 2002, at 9:00 a.m., in the Azalea D room of the Beau Rivage Hotel in Biloxi, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Mrs. Joanna Heidel, Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, Mr. Henry Hudspeth, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren, and Mrs. Brenda Yonge.

**Member absent:** Mrs. Sara Fox.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Mrs. Nancy Alley, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Mrs. Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mrs. Sandra Lucas, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Mrs. Denise Walley, Dr. Evelyn Webb, and Ms. Frankie Walton-White.

**Guests in attendance:** Dr. Bill Smith – IHL; Mr. Al Sleppy; Dr. Tommy Davis – East Mississippi Community College; Dr. Larry Bailey, Dr. Linda Steele, and Mr. Louis Fancher – Mississippi Delta Community College; Dr. David Cole – Itawamba Community College; Mr. Hal Higdon and Ms. Cheryl Thompson – Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Dr. Charles Chance – Northeast Mississippi Community College; Mr. Jimmy Heidel, and Mr. Jack Ramsey.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and all guests present introduced themselves.

**PRELIMINARIES**

Mrs. Brenda Yonge gave the invocation.

**Approval of Minutes of the May 17, May 29, and June 12, 2002 Meetings**

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 17, May 29, and June 12, 2002, meetings.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Olon Ray gave an update on the Community and Junior College Funding Formula Study mandated by the Legislature during the 2002 Session. SBCJC members received a draft copy of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for review and comments at the last Board meeting. Dr. Ray announced the appointment of an advisory committee to work with the consultants chosen to complete the study. Dr. Charles Chance, Dr. Howell Garner, Mr. Jerry Senter, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, and Dr. Evelyn Webb will serve on the committee. The funding study will be broad based and will also include aspects of how workforce training funds are distributed.

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The Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College presidents discussed the draft RFP during the Legislative Planning Workshop and made suggestions. Mrs. Deborah Gilbert distributed copies of additions made to the draft RFP and briefly covered them with Board members (Exhibit A). SBCJC staff plans to release the RFP on July 2, 2002. The deadline for submitting a proposal will be August 2, 2002. After the submission deadline the advisory committee will review and score the applicants. Interview with the applicants will then be scheduled. The study must be submitted to the Mississippi Legislature by December 15, 2002.

Dr. Ray distributed copies of the report from RTS, Inc. The study was commissioned to provide strategic planning for the State Workforce Development Council (SWDC) and was paid for with a grant from the Mississippi Development Authority. The SWDC has taken the study under advisement and will accept comments and corrections during a sixty-day period after which the report will be finalized.

Dr. Ray announced that grant proposals have been submitted to the Phil Hardin and Bower Foundations to secure funding to support on-line distance learning programs. The funding will help support library databases training, certification programs, and health and human services training initiatives.

Dr. Ray reported that the Workforce Investment Act grant that allows Mr. Steve Halliburton to work with the colleges to coordinate ways to utilize federal WIA funds to provide training has been extended into Fiscal Year 2003.

In personnel matters, Dr. Ray announced that Mrs. Becky Cade is leaving the SBCJC to take a position as Associate Executive Director of the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television.

## **REPORTS/ACTION**

### **MACJC Report**

Dr. Ray reported that MACJC Chairman, Dr. Starkey Morgan, had become ill during the night and was returning home. In Dr. Morgan's absence, Dr. Tommy Davis gave a brief report on the activities of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

On behalf of the Association, Dr. Davis thanked Dr. Olon Ray for his support of Mississippi's community and junior colleges during his tenure as SBCJC Executive Director. Dr. Davis pledged the MACJC's support to Dr. Wayne Stonecypher as he becomes the new SBCJC Executive Director.

### **Mississippi Community College Public Foundation, Inc., Report**

Mr. Al Sleppy expressed his gratitude to Dr. Olon Ray for his forty-one years of service to education in Mississippi. He also thanked the SBCJC for choosing Dr. Wayne Stonecypher to become the next Executive Director. Mr. Sleppy thanked the Board for the opportunity to meet with them and thanked each member for their efforts in supporting our State's community colleges and the citizens of Mississippi.

Mr. Sleppy gave a short report concerning the Mississippi Community College Public Foundation, Inc. (MCCPF). The Foundation is a non-profit organization originally established in May 1991,

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with Dr. Olon Ray as the registered agent, and was reconstituted in March 2000, with new Directors and Officers. The MCCPF is committed to furthering the interests of Mississippi's community and junior colleges and the SBCJC through the support of programs and initiative designed to ensure greater public understanding of the purposes of community and junior colleges. The Foundation supports and encourages the development and implementation of programs designed to better serve Mississippi's community and junior college students. The purpose of the Foundation is (1) to promote and enhance program priorities of the SBCJC; (2) to provide grants and other support in the form of seed money for creative and innovative pilot programs in the public community and junior colleges; (3) to heighten awareness of the public community and junior colleges through public relations and information; (4) to provide grants and scholarship assistance to students in the public community and junior colleges; (5) to provide institution incentives for the development and implementation of programs and institutions of excellence; (6) to promote and encourage staff development, including recognition of excellent services; and to receive solicit, accept, and hold funds and administer, invest, and disburse such funds for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes.

The Foundation currently consists of a sixteen person Board of Directors:

Five directors, one from each of the previous five Mississippi Congressional Districts that is a member of the SBCJC.

Five directors, one from each of the previous five Mississippi Congressional Districts that is not a member of the SBCJC to be nominated by the SBCJC member for that Congressional District.

One director shall be a president from one of the Mississippi public community and junior colleges.

A minimum of four at large directors who may or may not be residents of the State of Mississippi with distinguished service to be appointed by the Board of Directors.

The Foundation has two standing committees:

The Nominating Committee, consisting of five directors who hold membership on the SBCJC.

The Executive Committee, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the Foundation (as elected by the Board of Directors). The purpose of this committee is to approve payment of invoices for expenses incurred by the Foundation.

Mr. Sleppy reported that during the period of March 2000, through April 2002, the Foundation had receipts in the amount of \$137,000. Disbursements were made for legal fees, accounting fees, grants, and insurance, leaving the current cash balance of \$31,000. He also stated that \$20,000 of that balance is designated for scholarship programs.

The Foundation was awarded a \$3,000 grant by the Academic Systems Corporation to integrate one of their course work products into three courses currently being taught through the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC).

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Also, the Mississippi Automotive Wholesalers Association has contributed \$20,000 to the Foundation to provide two \$500 scholarships to be awarded to full time students studying in the area of automotive repair or maintenance at each of the fifteen community and junior colleges.

The Foundation has supported the operation and implementation of the MSVCC and is currently pursuing two grants to provide electronic library databases and health related databases for the MSVCC.

#### Special Presentations

SBCJC Chairman, Mr. George Walker, presented Mr. Al Sleppy a plaque officially naming him as "Friend of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges and the Community College System" in recognition of his service as President of the Mississippi Community College Public Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Walker also presented a plaque to Dr. Olon Ray in recognition of his leadership as SBCJC Executive Director from 1990-2002. He praised Dr. Ray for his excellent leadership and strong vision for the Board and community colleges.

Dr. Ray expressed his appreciation to the Board individually and collectively.

#### Workforce Report

Mr. George Walker reported that the State Workforce Development Council discussed the RTS, Inc. report at their June meeting. He stated that the SWDC was taking the study under advisement for comment and correction for a sixty-day period. One of the recommendations outlined in the report encourages the consolidation of workforce training efforts under the SBCJC. He encouraged the Board members to read the report and offer comments.

#### Policies

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher and Mrs. Nancy Alley presented a draft copy of the SBCJC Workforce Project Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2003, and briefly covered the changes and additions highlighted in bold print (Exhibit B). Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the submission of the SBCJC Workforce Project Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2003, to the Secretary of State's office to begin the Administrative Procedures process.

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher presented a final copy of the SBCJC Policy related to charging a fee for duplicate GED diplomas and transcripts (Exhibit C). Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg the Board voted unanimously to approve the GED policy allowing the SBCJC to charge a \$5.00 fee for duplicate transcripts and diplomas with the effective date of July 1, 2002.

#### Program Report

Mrs. Joanna Heidel presented a request from Northeast Mississippi Community College to add an Industrial Maintenance option under their Automated Manufacturing Curriculum. Upon a motion by Mrs. Heidel and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to

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approve an Industrial Maintenance option under the Northeast Mississippi Community College Automated Manufacturing program.

#### EdNet Report

Mr. Jimmy Murphy and Dr. Evelyn Webb gave the Board an update on EdNet. In light of the current financial problems WorldCom is experiencing, negotiations are at a standstill for the settlement of the contract with EdNet. Dr. Webb stated that the licensees and the EdNet Board are continuing to work on programming issues. She also reported that EdNet may be requesting help from the licensees in the near future to meet EdNet financial responsibilities.

#### Location of Classes for Summer Term

Dr. Evelyn Webb presented a list of Locations of Classes for the Summer 2002 Term for fourteen of the fifteen colleges (Exhibit D). Dr. Webb reported that Coahoma Community College has acquired more space and has expanded its campus to include property approximately three miles from their current location. Coahoma will be able to offer summer school classes, non-traditional, non-credit classes, 2+2 courses in conjunction with Delta State University, and short term accelerated college courses at this expanded site.

Dr. Ray recommended that the Board approve the extension as part of Coahoma Community Colleges' campus. Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mr. Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the extension as part of Coahoma Community Colleges' main campus.

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, the Board voted unanimously to approve the partial list of Locations of Classes for the Summer 2002 Term as presented.

#### MSVCC – Memorandum of Agreement

Dr. Evelyn Webb presented a copy of the Criteria for State Reimbursement of Mississippi Virtual Community College Courses (Exhibit E) with a highlighted change. Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the change to the SBCJC Criteria for State Reimbursement of Mississippi Virtual Community College Courses. Dr. Webb stated that fourteen colleges will participate in the MSVCC for FY 2003. Jones County Junior college will not participate.

The meeting recessed at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

#### Workforce Management Report

Mrs. Nancy Alley distributed an updated listing of fees charged by the community and junior colleges for workforce projects (Exhibit F). She also distributed copies of example workforce training project reimbursements showing the types of training applied for and briefly discussed them with the Board (Exhibit G). Mr. Jimmy Heidel expressed concern that some colleges are charging an administrative fee to business for providing training. He stated that companies coming into the state do not understand why they would be charged a fee in one area and not be charged in another area. Mrs. Joanna Heidel stated that she felt the Board needs to determine

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what they might do to help insure that if charges are levied that they are uniform and fair to all involved.

Dr. Olon Ray expressed that some of the concerns might be addressed when the Legislative mandated study of community and junior college funding is complete. Dr. David Cole suggested that the Board ask the community and junior colleges to waive the administrative fees being charged to industry for workforce training until the comprehensive report is complete. Dr. Charles Chance concurred and stated that the request might provide a viable alternative to the Board's issuing a moratorium for the charges. Dr. Olon Ray recommended that the Board request that the colleges that are charging fees, suspend the charges pending the outcome of the funding study that will be completed in November and is presented to the Legislature in December, and that the college report to the Board in writing their decision related to the matter. Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel that in a sense of autonomy and cooperation, the Board ask the colleges that are charging administrative fees for workforce training, suspend the charges pending the outcome of the funding study and also that they inform the SBCJC of their actions no later than August 1, 2002. Mr. Henry Hudspeth seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

#### Finance Report

Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the May 31, and June 30, 2002, Education Enhancement Disbursements from Funds 3295, 4080, and 4110 in the respective amounts of \$2,945,569 and \$2,134,226 (Exhibit H). The June 30, 2002, amount of \$2,134,226 could be higher or lower depending on revenue collections in June.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg and a second by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Disbursements for Fund 2298 for July 2002, in the amount of \$25,470,978 (Exhibit I).

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Schedule of Disbursements for FY 2003 (Exhibit J).

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, the Board voted unanimously to approve the FY 2004 Support Budget Request (Exhibit K).

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the FY 2004 Administration Budget Request (Exhibit L).

Upon a motion by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg and a second by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Z- 1 Budget Approval for FY 2003 for Support and Administration (Exhibit M). This revised the previous Z-1 approval in May to accommodate the Governor's request of 45% in the first allotment period and 55% in the second allotment period.

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, the Board voted to approve the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan for 2004-2008 (Exhibit N). Motion passed 6 – 1. (Voting Yes – Walker, Yonge, Heidelberg, Murphy, Warren, and Hudspeth. Voting No – Heidel).

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, the Board voted unanimously to approve the S. B. 3197 Bond Projects (Exhibit O).

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Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented financial statements for Funds 2291 and 3291 as of May 31, 2002, (Exhibit P).

#### Funding Study Approval

Dr. Ray gave a brief report on how the RFP would be handled to obtain the funding formula study. Upon his recommendation, a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth, and a second by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to officially approve the funding formula study and the advertisement of the RFP.

#### ETV Board Appointment

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher presented a recommendation that Mr. Jason Pugh be appointed to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television (ETV). Upon a motion by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Jason Pugh to the Board of Trustees of ETV.

#### Presentation for Board Service

SBCJC Chairman, Mr. George Walker, presented plaques to Mrs. Joanna Heidel and Mr. Henry Hudspeth in recognition of their dedicated service as members of the SBCJC from July 1996 through June 2002. Even though Mrs. Heidel's and Mr. Hudspeth's term of service expires on June 30, 2002, they will continue to serve until new appointments are made by the Governor.

#### Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to approve requests for reimbursement of travel expenses for the following:

Mr. Jimmy Murphy for attending an EdNet meeting on July 15, 2002

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Walker stated that he would be giving a report to the MACJC Trustees on Saturday morning and had asked SBCJC staff to prepare a synopsis of the Board's activity in Fiscal Year 2002. Mr. Walker distributed to each Board member a compilation of the SBCJC FY 2002 Highlights (Exhibit Q).

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher expressed his appreciation to the Board for selecting him to serve as the new Executive Director. He announced that Dr. Randall Bradberry would be accepting the Associate Executive Director for Programs position and that SBCJC staff would be working toward filling the Director of Affiliated Activities position. He also reported that Mrs. Denise Walley would be moving to serve as the Executive Secretary to the Executive Director.

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Dr. Stonecypher also distributed a memo from Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration (CPSCR) Director, Mr. Danny Seal, recommending that current CPSCR member Dr. Shirley Hopkins-Davis be reappointed for another term. This item will be presented to the Board for action at a future meeting.

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, the Board voted unanimously to utilize the Jackson Hilton as the hotel for monthly board meetings. The Thursday evening meeting will be held in the Crown Room of the Hilton immediately following dinner at the Wellington Restaurant.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

  
George Walker, Chairman

  
Olon E. Ray, Executive Director